

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIA-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-02 PRS-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

FTC-01 JUSE-00 L-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 OMB-01 FRB-01

SP-02 /058 R

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USIA: MR. SANDIN (SUBS.)

COMMERCE: MR. MUENZER (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL CALI IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS STATE 145343

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: CGEN, CO

SUBJECT: WALL STREET JOURNAL STORY ON COLOMBIAN PRISONERS  
WORKING FOR U.S. FIRMS

1. JUNE 20 WALL STREET JOURNAL CARRIES FRONT PAGE STORY  
ENTITLED QTE CAPTIVE WORKERS: PRISONERS IN COLOMBIA ARE  
WORKING FOR UNITS OF U.S. MULTINATIONALS. UNQTE. STORY,  
WRITTEN BY STEPHEN SANSWEET AND DATELINED BOGOTA, STATES  
6,000 PRISONERS NOW WORKING FOR COMPANIES IN COLOMBIA,  
INCLUDING U.S. MULTINATIONALS, AS PART OF REHABILITATION  
PROGRAM. QTE ACTION IN COLOMBIA UNQTE, A NON-PROFIT  
GROUP BACKED BY BUSINESS FIRMS (INCLUDING U.S. COMPANIES)  
REPORTEDLY HAS PROPOSED TO EXPAND THE PROGRAM BY MAKING  
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COLOMBIA'S ENTIRE PRISON POPULATION QTE EMPLOYEES

UNQTE OF NATIONAL AND MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES. SEVERAL  
U.S. FIRMS CITED AS EMPLOYING PRISON WORKERS AT WAGES  
MUCH LESS THAN THOSE PAID NORMAL EMPLOYEES. SHIPMENT  
OF SHOES TO U.S. FROM A COLOMBIAN COMPANY USING  
PRISON WORKERS WAS REPORTEDLY CONFISCATED BY U.S.  
CUSTOMS.

2. USIA WIRELESS FILE WILL CARRY FULL TEXT OF STORY.

3. IN ANTICIPATION OF POSSIBLE PRESS INQUIRIES,  
DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST EMBASSY'S VIEWS  
ON (A) THE VERACITY OF THE STORY AND (B) HOW THE  
DEPARTMENT SHOULD RESPOND TO INQUIRES. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 JUN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE145343  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DWCOX:JVM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750215-1099  
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**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**To:** BOGOTA  
**Type:** TE  
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